

CLAIMS

Therefore, having thus described the invention, at least the following is claimed:

- 1 1. A facet fusion system for fusing a facet joint comprising:
2 a trochar arranged and configured for use during percutaneous retraction;
3 a retractor arranged and configured for use during percutaneous retraction; and
4 a facet bur arranged and configured for decorticating the facet joint;
5 wherein said trochar, said retractor, and said facet bur are implemented to prepare
6 the facet joint for fusion.

- 1 2. The facet fusion system of claim 1, wherein said facet bur further comprises:
2 a head having a planar and an extension extending from said planar; and
3 a shaft extending from said planar of said head, said shaft extending from said
4 planar in a direction opposing said extension of said head, said shaft being arranged and
5 configured to engage a source of rotation power for said rotation portion;
6 wherein said extension is arranged and configured to engage a facet joint to taper
7 said facet joint and said planar is arranged and configured to engage and plane a posterior
8 surface of the facet.

- 1 3. The facet fusion system of claim 2, further comprising:
2 a facet sizer arranged and configured to aid in the determination of an appropriate
3 size implant to be inserted into the facet joint to facilitate fusion.

1 4. The facet fusion system of claim 3, wherein said facet sizer comprises:
2 a body portion; and
3 a handle extending from said body portion;
4 wherein said body portion is arranged and configured to aid in the determination
5 of an appropriate size implant to be inserted into the facet joint to facilitate fusion.

1 5. A facet fusion system of claim 1, further comprising:
2 an implant arranged and configured to facilitate fusion of the facet joint.

1 6. A facet fusion system of claim 5, further comprising:
2 staple means for fixing said implant in position in the facet joint;
3 wherein said staple means facilitates fusion of the facet joint with said implant.

- 1 7. A facet fusion system for fusing a facet joint comprising:
2 retraction means for performing percutaneous retraction; and
3 decorticating means for decorticating the facet joint.
- 1 8. A facet fusion system of claim 7, wherein said decorticating means further
2 comprises:
3 taper means for tapering the facet joint;
4 planing means for planing a portion of the facet joint; and
5 support means for supporting and rotating said decorticating means and said
6 planing means.
- 1 9. The facet fusion system of claim 7, further comprising:
2 fusion means for facilitating fusion of the facet joint.
- 1 10. The facet fusion system of claim 9, further comprising:
2 sizing means for determining appropriate dimensions of said fusion means.